tion could be permitted unless that gentieman chose to give way. Mr. Wray, declining to do this, contin-

to give way. Mr. Wray, declining to de this, continued his remarks.

He said that a detailed report upon the value of the Chinese Sugar-Cane had been read here yesterday by the Chairman of the Committee, who was none other than Mr. Browne himself. Now, as that gentleman had been not only cognizant of the existence of the imphee in this country, but had experimented of the imphee in this country, but had experimented upon it bimself, both as a private and public individual, why was there ho mention made of it whatever it had seen the abstract of a report upon the imphee and sorgho, containing most valuable and scientific reandeorgho, containing most valuable and scientific reandeorgho, containing most valuable and scientific reandeorgho. Dr. Jackson had found that the imphee contained a large percentage of crystallizable sugar. Why was this testimony withheld, if it were not that a desire was entertained to impugn his character and destroy public confidence in the imphee 1 To prove that sugar could be made from imphee, and that of fair quality, he begged to call their attention to the samples of sugar he held in his hand, which he had made in Africa, and for which he had received the silver medal.

He was at once surrounded by members who wished

made in Africa, and for which he had received the silver medal.

He was at once surrounded by members who wished to see the sugar, and his remarks were for a few moments suspended. Continuing, he said that the motive had been imputed to him of introducing a plant which he knew to be worthless. The press had, in some cases, attacked him in this manner, but he had refraired from making the slightest reply, except on one quite recent occasion. He spoke of the failure to make sugar on Gov. Hammond's plantation, and attributed it to the fact that the canes were grown on aswamp land so rich in soluble mineral matter that on one measured acre the yield had been 108 bushels and on another 98 bushels of shelled corn. If the cane were grown on uplands of moderate fertility, he felt the greatest confidence that it would be equally, if not more valuable than the sorgho. But we must not confine our attention so closely to the sugarbearing of the two plants as to lose sight of another most valuable product, that of alcohol. The amount of alcohol used in the mechanic arts is enormous. Millions of bushels of grain are annually consumed by the distilleries, and of course withdrawn from the reach of families. Now, if the imphee juice did not give one particle of crystallized sugar, if only it could be instrumental in saving from distillation the grain which is now used for that purpose, every phi lanthropist should hail its introduction with hearty congratulations. He had, only yesterday, received letters from a correspondent in France, stating that it had been found that every tun of stalks gave in less than thirty gallons of alcohol. The best-root has been known to give, by Leplaix's process, 495 gallons, 45 per cent over proof, which was 105 gallons less than sorgho and imphee. He read an extract from a letter received from a distiller in New-York, showing that Sorgho brandy would now bring \$1 per gallon if new, or \$2.50 to \$3 if it had age. In conclusion, he would present, if agreeable to the members, a letter from Gov. J. H He was at once surrounded by members who wished

do so, he read the following letter:

REDCLIFFE, Nov. 25, 1857.

DEAR SIR: I received to-day The Southern Cultivator for December. It contains two letters from Mons. Vilmorin, denouncing your imphee in a manner that appears to me malicious; and as I know his statements are false as regards the imphee growing in this latitude, I deem it due to them and to you to give my teatineny sgainst them. Your imphee came here too late to allow a perfectly satisfactory comparison to be instituted between that and sorgho; but I do not remember that, in any attempts we made to compare them, the results were in favor of sorgho. Certainly, most of the variethes of the imphee have a larger stalk, and produce more judice; none, I believe, are smaller. As to "red not," which so severely affected the sorgho, I do not think it appeared at all in more than one kind of imphee, and that had ripened long before we reached it in our operations. I am sure the imphee is not more subject to the "red rot" than the sorgho, and was not as much affected by it this year here. As to the percentage of saccharine matter in the judice, I saw the saccharometer mark 18 Beanmé once, and frequently 14 to 18 Beanmé. From my experience of this year, I should be unwilling to say that the imphee is decidedly superior to the sorgho; but I am equally unperpared to say that any single variety of imphee is inferior to the sorgho.

I shall try all of them, again and again, before I determine

prepared to say that any single variety of implice is interior to the sorpho.

I shall try all of them, again and again, before I determine which is the very best. As you say Mons. Vilmorin obtained no implies seed from you, I am inclined to think he has not made his experiment with pure seed. Certainly the seed he sent to this country last Spring for implice, at \$10 her lb., was thoroughly mixed with doursh, and one parcel that he sent was all doursh, as I am informed. I have not, as you well know, any interest in the sale of implice seed, or anything made from implice; and you are well aware of my aversion to having my name in the papers, but you can show this letter to any one you please, and, if absolutely necessary, publish it. I shall probably put the substance of it in the next Cultivator.

L. Wray, esq.

L. WRAY, esq.

L. Waav, esq.
On resuming his sent Mr. Wray was greeted by loud applause.
Mr. D. Jay Browne said that as a public officer he had held it to be his duty to protect the agriculturists of the country from a plant which, on Mr. Wray's own statement, he believed to have been mixed with down; that to do so he had used his private influence in private correspondence, and the Society could indge whether he had not been authorized in so doing He would make no remarks upon the subject, bu simply ask that a report which he held in his han might be read. It was a letter from Dr. Asa Gray the botanist, to Prof. Henry of the Smithsonian In stitution.

the botanist, to Froh. Heary of the Santasonau Tstitution.

This letter was handed to the Secretary and by him read. It gave as the opinion of Dr. Gray that the imphee and sorgho were but varieties of the genus andropogon, and that they were congeners of domandorn, broom-corn, &c. If planted together they would be very likely to mix, and the result would be the production of hybrids.

Mr. Browne stated that we had present with us the eminent chemist and prejogist who had been pre-

eminent chemist and geologist who had been previously referred to, and begged leave to introduce Dr. Charles T. Jackson of Boston.

Prof. Jackson stated that he had been employed by the Patent-Office of the United States to make researches into the nature of the sugar of the sorgho, and had triumphantly established its having a large enterentage of true cane sugar, and so strongly marked and had triumphantly established its having a large percentage of true cane sugar, and so strongly marked was the property, that when the juice was boiled in vacuo it nearly all turned into sugar. He had been present at a recent meeting of the Boston Society of Natural History, of which he was a humble member, and had heard read a very able report on the botany of the sorgho and imphee, made by Mr. Sprague, the botanical curator of the Society, upon a suite of specimen curator of the Society by Mr. Olcott. This report, as had been stated by Mr. Wray, proved the sorgho and imphee to be congeners, and likely to exchange types. He had very attentively studied the Chinese, but not so much the African, sugar cane. Year before last he had made sugar from sorgho grown at the United States Arsenal at Watertown. The past senson had been so very cold and wet that no at the United States Arcenal at Watertown. The past senson had been so very cold and wet that no sorghe hed ripened in the vicinity of Boston, except one lot started in pots and transplanted. The unripe cases, he found, did not contain crystallizable sugar. In his State, molasses could be made from the case, in any season—it mattered not that the canes should be ripe. The very preponderance of glucose, or grape sugar, which immaturity caused, rendered the juice more fit for the manufacture of alcohol; for even if cane sugar were present it would have to pass into the condition of grape sugar before it could be formed into alcohol. He had carefully computed the profits of sorgho culture. Three hundred gallons of sirup were an average crop in Massachusetts. Mr. Hyde, of Newton Centre, had sold his sirup at \$1 per gallon, and he himself was well consetts. Mr. Hyde, of Newton Centre, had sold his sirup at \$1 per gallon, and he himself was well convinced of its value. The juice of sorghound implee would yield 9 per cent of true cane sugar and 6 per cent additional of glucose. It would give 12 per cent of alcohol—that is, proof spirits. The alcohol was peculiarly suitable for brandy-making, because of its containing a peculiar and agreeable aroma. The mere addition of burnt sugar to the spirits gave it the rich color of brandy. Its value was specially evident in making burning fluid, and for mechanical purposes. Seventy-five per cent of the alcohol made in Massachusetts last year was used for these purposes. The production of great quantities of seed was detrimental to the secretion of sugar in the stalk.

Mr. Olcott, of N. Y., asked if in the opinion of Dr. Jacksen it was advisable to remove the seed panicles.

Mr. Olcott, of N. 1., asked it in the opinion of Dr. Jackson it was advisable to remove the seed panicles, as they appeared, so as to divert the energies of the plant from the secretion of starch to that of sugar.

Dr. Jackson replied that the time at which the operation was performed would materially affect such practice. If the tutts were removed when the seed was just passing into the milk, he thought it would be

an advantage.

Mr. Olcott said that on Mr. Peters's plantation he Mr. Olcott said that on Mr. Peters's plantation he had seen sorgho plants thus treated which presented a curious appearance. From each joint of the stalk short stems had grown out on either side, each of which endeavored to produce its seed-head; and he arged that this materially interfered with the development of the plant and weakened its sap.

Dr. Jackson thought the topping had been practiced at se early a stage of growth that the plant had expended its great energy in this way; but the same result would not have ensued if it had been delayed until the canes were more mature.

result would not have ensued if it had been delayed until the canes were more mature.

Mr. Wray spoke on the point raised by Dr. J., that an excess of seed was prejudicial to the production of sagar. He had varieties of imphee which disproved this theory; but it certainly was an advantage to have a large stath and a small seed-head in districts where strong sweeping winds were likely to prostrate the canes. The varieties E-ca-gha, Shla-goo-va, and others of these imphee, had the desirable peculiarities. On Southern plantations, a seed-hearing variety, such as the En-ya-ma and Zim-moo ma-na, which he showed to the meeting, were peculiarity valuable. On Goy. Hammond's plantation he had seen the negroes disputing with the cattle for choice seed-hearis, as they used them for cating. The way they prepared

them for the table, was to steep them for a very few moments in boiling water. This served to loosen the moments in boiling water. This served to loosen the pellicle. They were then rubbed, and the pellicles being thus easily removed, the seeds were boiled like rice, and were as white, sweet, and nutritious. In Marti-nique, Mr. Grellet Baiguerie had fed his negroes en-

Dr. Jackson said the juice of the Vim-bis-clus-a-pa gave but 12 per cent sugar, and the sergho 16 per

Mr. Clemsen of D. C. asked if the feebleness of crystallization was not due to the presence of an acid, and not to the immaturity of the cane; and if this were so, would not the use of lime allow of sugar being made even from unripe cane!

Dr. Jackson said no, that in such case crystals of grape sugar would appear, but not true cane crystals; that in all sugar-making from sorgho or imphee the juice should be filtered cold as it ran from the mill.

Mr. Clemsen asked if the plant contained.

Mr. Clemsen asked if the plants contained as grea a percentage of cane sugar as the sugar-cane itself!

Dr. Jackson was of the opinion that it was even

larger.

Mr. Wray described his process of making sugar by
the process of cold defection and the use of tannic infusions.

Mr. Clemsen desired to know of Mr. Wray if any

difference was made to the cane by growing on cal-Mr. Wray said it certainly made a great difference,

Mr. Wray said it certainly made a great difference, and, as illustrative of it, quoted the immense improvement in the quality of the beet-root juce found to result from growing on calcareous soils. It was the custom among the Kaffirs to plant only immature seed; for if ripe sorgho or imphee seed were planted they would rapidly degenerate into grain-bearing plants, and lose their saccharine value.

Mr. Olcott wished to remind the Society of the position in which Mr. Wray had been placed before them. It seems that we were to give a verdiet which should settle the value of the imphee. We certainly could not say that we had that practical acquaintance with the plant which would enable us to give a positive decision. But we could say that there seemed to us no reason to believe that it was inferior to the sorgho.

cision. But we could say that there seemed to us no reason to believe that it was inferior to the sorgho, and he should, therefore, offer a resolution to that effect—which he did.

Mr. Byington objected to the terms of the resolution, said it was divisible into clauses, and he should move such division. Carried.

Mr. Burgwyn said that the clause recommending the plant for experiment and report by the United States Patent Office was, in his opinion, a very just one, and that if the Office were to accede to it, it would make itself popular among the farmers.

would make itself popular among the farmers.

Mr. D. Jay Browne said that he had tried the plant

n comparison with sorgho, and found it to be worth-Mr. Byington offered an amendment to the resolu-

Dr. Higgins of Maryland indorsed the original resolution, because it was the business of the Agricultural Department of the Patent Office to set forth themerits of one plant as well as another.

Mr. Browne said that he had planted implies near

Washington and in other places, and none of the seed

would ripen.

Mr. Wray was overwhelmed with astonishment at the assertion of the gentleman, for he had been shown by Mr. Browne seed-heads ripened by him near Washington, and the seeds were as perfectly matured as any he had ever seen.

Farmer Jones of Delaware indulged in his customary

Farmer Jones of Delaware indusped in its customary appeals for a re-enactment of the tariff laws.

Col. Burgwyn offered an amendment to the original resolution of Mr. Olcott, which being accepted, the amended regolution was put to vote and unanimously adopted. It now stands thus:

adopted. It now stands thus:

"Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Society, the facts presented and the testimony adduced by Mr. Leonard Wray, show that the implies has attracted the attention of illustrious agriculturists in Europe and this country. That the Commissioner of Patenis be requested to test, through his correspondence or otherwise, at the earliest practicable time, the capacities of the plant, as compared with the sorpho, and that the members of this Society use their individual exertions to test the comparative merits of the two, and report the results to the Patent Office Department."

two, and report the results to the Patent Office Department."

The Committee on investigating the disease known as the hog cholera reported through its Chairman, Dr. Higgins of Maryland. The report states that the disease is evidently a species of pneumonia, and the cure, as discovered by Dr. Higgins, after experimenting on hundreds of cases, is to take equal portions of carbonate of soda and carbonate of barilla, mix together, rub them in a mortar, and give a dose of 10 grains, about a table-spoonful, three times a day. This is said to have been entirely successful.

There were exhibited to the Society a new churn and a very excellent milk-pan, which is intended for straining milk and draining it off without disturbing

There were exhibited to the Steley's new charles and a very excellent milk-pan, which is intended for straining milk and draining it off without disturbing the cream after it has risen. The milk is poured upon a strainer or cullender, and after the cream has risen a valve is opened in the side of the pan, which allows the milk to run out and the cream is retained, so as to be easily removed. Dr. Loring has used this in a dairy of 200 cows, and bears strong testimony to its value. Beside this there was a "wind chariot"—a machine intended to furnish motive power to work a gang of plows, and, by means of a side shaft, turn a sort of revolving harrow and a pair of rollers. The inventor is Mr. D. A. Smith of Washington.

The customary votes of thanks to the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution for the use of the rooms, to the officers of the Society, and to the reporters of the press, having been passed, President Tilghman declared the meeting adjourned sine die, after pronouncing the following valedictory remarks:

Gentlemen of the U. S. Apricultural Society:

On behild the officers of the Society remails me to thank you.

nouncing the following valeductory remarks:

Gentlemen of the U. S. Agricultural Society:
On behalf of the officers of the Society. permit me to thank you for the complimentary resolutions which have just been passed.
The time has now arrived when we must once more says fare well, and the agreeable intercourse which we have enjoyed mms be suspended until our next annual reunion.

Let me entreat you, gentlemen, to remember, when you reach your far distant homes, that your duties as members of the Society are not to be confined to an attendance on its fairs, or a participa-

your far distant homes, that your duties as members of the Society are not to be confined to an attendance on its fairs, or a participation in the business of its annual meetings. The degree of vitality possessed by every organized body deep nds upon the constant and neathful action of all the parts of which it is composed.

The Executive Committee have made arrangements for opening an office at Washington for collecting a library, and for the publication of a monthly bulletin, which will be forwarded to all members free of charge.

The assistance of every member is required in the collection of books, see ds. models, minerals, specimens of natural history, and sold other objects of interest and value to the farmer. It is also important that the Secretary, as the editor of the Bulletin, should be furnished with communications on subjects relating to agriculture, and be constantly apprised of everything new and important connected with the great farming interest of the nation. Let it be your constant endeavor to disseminate among your neighbors full and correct information in regard to the nature, the object, and the importance of our association; to induce as many as possible to entrol themselves among its members, and to obtain donations to its treasury.

de to enton hereaury.

And now, gentlemen, permit me to wish you a pleasant return
of the enjoyment of your domestic pursuits, and to invoke on
rour labors the richest blessings of a merciful and bountiful

## reator. I bid you, brother farmers, a respectful and affectionate adieu AGRICULTURAL.

HOW TO BUY A HORSE . . . . IIL DEFECTS TO BE DETECTED IN THE LEGS AND

FEET.

Heretofore we have shown the structural points of excellence to be selected by the purchaser of a horse, and some of the faults to be avoided and deceits to be suspected. With respect to the age, the eyes, and the wind of the animal, we have briefly shown what evils are most to be apprehended, and by what means they are to be detected. We now come to the discases and affections, or malformations, of the legs and feet, which are, of course, most fatal of all to the horse, as required, for any useful purpose whatever; inasmuch as an animal, whose only utility lies in hi powers of locomotion, if deprived or seriously curtailed of those very powers, is nearly valueless; quite so, unless he be an entire horse or a mare capable of propagating its species, and even then of little worth. since no one with judgment cares to propagate ani-

mals likely to inherit lameness in their blood. It is not necessary, of course, to speak of horse which are absolutely lame at the moment when they are offered for sale, since such cripples cannot avoid showing the nilment in their gait the moment they are put in motion, especially on a hard road, so palpably that no tyro can fail to discover it. For this reason it is well that the purchaser should always insist on ceing the animal which is offered for his inspection put through all its paces rapidly, for a short distance, on a hard surface; since many cripples are able to make a good show enough on a soft ride, laid several inches deep with tan-bark or sawdust, or on a piece of nice turf, which if put in motion on a macadamized read will flinch and show the weak point immediately. It is rather, therefore, the points which indicate past lameness, likely to return, or the incipient traces of what will probably produce future lameness, for

most incurable of all foot lamenesses. Side-bone is the same affection when it is only partial-not forming

wner will always have a good reason for the biemish, that the horse was trying to leap a stone wall out of the pasture and grazed his knees on the coping, or that he reared up in the stable and barked them against the under side of the manger, or something else equally likely to have, happened. Now, a broken knee from a fall, if it be healed, is no defect in itself, and produces no unsoundness; still, as it is fifty to one that a horse which has once fallen will, under the like circumstances, fall again, a broken-kneed horse is to be eschewed, even more than a runaway or a kicker. And as it is fifty to one that every brokenkneed herre is a stumbler, and that every horse with white or bare patches on his knees is both a brokenkneed horse and a stumbler, no one should buy a horse with bare or white patches on his knees. In examining the legs of a horse, the observer

should first stand with his face to the broadside of the horse as he stands on flat ground, and observe whether he rests perpendicularly on all his legs, having the natural proportion of his weight on each leg straightly. squarely and directly; or whether he stands with all his legs straddled outside of their true aplomb; or with all drawn together under the center of his belly. as if he were trying to stick them all into a hat; or, lastly, whether he favors one or more of his legs, either by pointing it forward or by placing it in any position in which no weight at all or a very small stress of weight is thrown upon it. A horse may apparently favor one foot accidentally, from a casual impatience or restlessness. He is not, therefore, to be rejected because he points a toe once or twice. But if he seem to do so, he should be constantly brought back to the original position, in which he must bear equally on each foot; when, if he be found constantly to favor the same feet in the same manner, something serious must be suspected, which gives the horse uneasiness and pain, though not perhaps sufficient in degree to produce present lameness. If the toe of a fore foot be persistently pointed forward, disease of the navicular, commonly known as the coffin bone, is to be suspected, than which no worse or less curable disease exists. If both the fore feet are protruded and the hind feet thrown back, as if the horse were about to stale, he has prob ably been at some time foundered. If he stands with all his feet down together under him, he is generally entirely used up, and what is called groggy. If he stands with one or both his knees beat forward and his legs tremulous, or with both his fetlock joints knuckled forward over his pasterns, one may be sure that, however good he may once have been, he has been knocked to pieces and used up by hard driving and hard work. However high his spirit and courage, he can never be but a cripple; and, although when he gets a little werm to his work he may get over the grogginess, and by dint of pluck and game work soundly and well, it is but the flash of an expiring lamp. His day is over, and his race run. Supposing the horse now to stand square and true on all his legs leaning his weight on each and all indifferently, with one glance at the horse in profile the side examination may be held as complete and satisfactory. That glance will ascertain whether the posterior outline of the hock joint is nearly perpendicular, or whether it is angular or has a convex curvilinear protuberance immediately above the commencement of the shank bone. This curvilinear protuberance, if large, is a curb which will produce lameness, though not of an incurable sort; if large, it is either the trace of a curb which has been cured, but may at any time return, or an indication of tendency to throw out curbs, on being put to hard work, especially in heavy ground. Horses which have been curbed, or which have curbed-shaped hocks, are generally to be avoided; but, as it is generally colts which throw out curbs, when first put to hard work, an old horse, which has done his share o work without having been actually curbed, is not to be absolutely rejected because he has what are commonly called curby hocks; for, that he has not yet thrown them out, under the stress of his early hard work, is, to a certain extent, security that he will not do so now. Had the tendency been strong it would probably have

developed itself already.

The side examination finished, the observer should station himself opposite to the head of the horse, and see that in this point of view also the horse, standing or moving, stands and moves with all his legs perpendicularly under him. Not to do so does not, it is true, indicate disease, but it indicates malformation, inducing awkwardness, and sometimes weakness. A knockkneed or bow-kneed horse, before, is like a knockkneed er bow-kneed man: if the former, weak and shaky on his legs; if the latter, a clumsy mover, and, in the case of the horse, almost sure to interfere, or strike one leg with the inner edge of the hoof of the other-a very bad and, in some cases, very dangerous fault. If, behind, the hocks are drawn in and the shanks diverge outwardly, the horse is said to be cathammed or cow-hocked; and this is a serious malforweakness. If, on the contrary, the hocks and legs are unusually wide apart, so that the animal straddles in going, while it is a decided point of strength, and conequently no defect in a mere draft horse, it is yet ungainly and against a high degree of speed, especially in a galloper. Some trotters of great speed have been straddlers, behind; and when this is the case and the animal is needed for harness only, as it is a sure mark of strength, it is not to be avoided, although ungainly; for a saddle-horse it is decidedly objectionable, sine it produces a style of action which is extremely disa-

His examination concluded, the purchaser must ex-

amine the several legs, for distinct marks of structural

greeable to the rider.

unsoundness. The chief of these are, in the fore legs, splents, damaged back sinews, and ringbones or sid bones-in the hind legs, bone, blood, or bog spavins; curbs, which have been described above; thorough pins, and, as in the fore legs, ringbones or side bones. Spleats are small excrescences of the bone, extruding laterally from the cannon bones, or shanks; they sometimes produce lameness, if so near to the knee as to interfere with the action of the joint, or so far back as to interfere with the play of the back sinews. If on the middle of the bone, and nearly midway between the knee and fetlock, they are of little consequence. In fact, if a horse be not lame of them, they are of less importance than is generally considered to be the case. They will generally yield to blistering or acupuncturing. Still, a splenty horse is, cateris paribus, to be avoided; rather, however, in our opinion, because it shows a tendency to form bony excrescences, than from the actual evil that they do. Damaged back sinews arise from the giving way of those most important motors, in consequence of wrench, or strain, or overexertion. However momentarily cured, or relieved a horse whose back sinews have once yielded is never again to be depended upon. These sinews run down the back of the leg, immediately in the rear of the cannon bone, from the hock to the fetlock, and, n their proper condition, should be as round, as tense and as firm as a harp-string, and connected to the bone by a sheath of firm yet elastic ligaments. The state of these is ascertained by grasping the leg, from before backward, and running the hand downward from the knee to the fetlock, with the nails of the thumb and middle finger in the groove formed by the connec tion of the cannon bone and sinew. If the sheath be even, free from loose cells or flexures, and if the sinew be firm, round, straight and cord-like, all is right. But if it be in places detached partially from the bone, flexed inward or outward, or if it feel spongy or knotty it is certain that something has gone wrong, and will, or at least may, be wrong again. If pinched at the places where the flexures, detachments, sponginess or knottiness occur, the horse will often evince pain and wince manifestly from the pressure. Damaged back sinews, if they do not produce present lameness, do not constitute unsoundness, but they do constitute a serious blemish, and are, in our judgment, an all-sufficient obstacle to purchasing. Ringbone is a circular excrescence of the bone, as its name indicates, encircling the cerenet, or part of the foot immediately above the junction of the hair and hoof. It produces one of the worst and the

a complete ring round the foot. It produces the same lameness, and is equally incurable. It is common to both fore and hind feet, although far more frequent before. It can easily be detected by the hand passed carefully over the part. Of navicular disease and other deep-seated lamenesses, there are no exterior signs, and, if the animal do not go lame, they are undiscoverable and beyond suspicion; it needs not, therefore, to allude to them. Clean legs are those free from all spients, bony excrescences and protuberances, the effect of accident or knocking about. Fresh legs are those in which there are no windgalls or puffy ex-crescences of the skin, but in which the bones, sinews, ligaments and cuticle are all in their normal and proper condition.

In the hind legs the joint most to be looked to is the hock, and the ailment most to be dreaded, the spavin. The spavin is either bone, blood or bog, all equally producing a desperate and dangerous lameness, but the first curable, the two last utterly incurable. The first is a bony excrescence of the inward and lower anterior portion of the hock joint. It is discoverable by the eye, looking from before backward, or by the hand. It sometimes produces total lameness; sometimes severe lameness on first starting, which passes entirely away as soon as the animal gets warm to his work; and sometimes, though rarely, exists without producing any lameness at all. It is sometimes curable by firing and blistering; sometimes utterly incurable. It is always an absolute cause for not purchasing any horse; but not always an absolute cause for selling an otherwise go I horse. We once drove a gray grandson of Messenger, for five years, who had a very large bone spavin in the very worst place. He invariably took his three first steps from a stationary position, however momentary the duration of the time he had been at rest, like a dead-lame horse. but then went as sound as any horse in the world, until he again stood still. No day was too long for him, nor was every day in a month too often. But, after all, he was not the rule, but the exception which proves

Bog spavin is the extravasation of the synovial fluid. which lubricates the joint, and its collection in a sac in the inward and lower anterior portion of the hock joint, somewhat within and before the point at which the lone spavin occurs. It may be seen partially in profile, but can be felt readily by pressure of the hand, under which it fluctuates. Blood spavin is a similar extravasation of arterial blood and formation, nearly in the same place, of a sort of aneurismal sac. It is detected as before, and may be distinguished from the bog spavin by the fact that it pulsates. Both these spavins are incurable under any ordinary treatment; the former absolutely so. It is possible that tying the artery might reduce the latter, but we are not aware that the operation has ever been tried. Thoroughpin is a similar extravasation of the synovial fluid, and formation of a sac, running between bones of the bock joint, not from the front backward, but across the joint, from side to side. It can be easily detected by the fingers, under the pressure of which the fluid can be felt to ebb and flow from side to side. Thoroughpin, like the kindred spavins, is incurable. It is needless to say that every horse with determined bone, bog or blood spavin, or with theroughpin, must be summarily rejected; but not needless to say that every one with any tendency to irregular bony enlargement, or to puffiness in the places indicated, should be peremptorily refused as something more than suspicious. These are the points which it is most necessary for the purchaser to look to; still, even if he be a really good amateur judge of a horse, he will be wise not to buy except of a person of whom he knows something—not to buy without a guaranty of soundness; and, above all, not without the opinion of a reputable veterinary surgeon, whom he news to have no interest in the sale or friendship with the seller. Even so, he will never be perfectly sure that he will not himself be sold; for, as a distinguished novelist has well observed, although there is no honester beast in the whole range of creation than a horse, no other has so singular a faculty for making men dis-

THE WORLD OF CRINOLINE.

Crinoline, though a term only properly applied to cloth made of crin-hair-and lin-thread, and hence to expansive skirts made of that material, is now by common usage the name given to all expansive skirts wern by women; and among all classes the desired degree of expansiveness is now obtained by hoops, and no matter how much they are railed against, we think that all who read the facts and figures of the business of making hooped skirts, will be ready to acknowledge that an attempt to drive them out with a gray goosesquill, or a steel-pen, however sharp its neb, would be akin to an attempt to drive the August out of a butcher's shop with the same weapon. First, then, we proclaim that there are

THOUSANDS OF MILES OF HOOPS! What think you, you who pretend to assert that the fashion of wearing hoops is an ephemeral one, that you can put down, of this one fact to begin with

There is now in operation in the City of New-York one manufactory of hooped skirts, that will use in the year 1858 over Two THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED MILES

If you intend to save the world from being overwhelmed, encircled, girt about with steel bands, or if yeu intend to save all the women from being encased in unapproachable steel armor, you must "up and at 'em again," or it will soon be too late, for the business of manufacturing crinoline is as expansive as the thing manufactured.

THE BEGINNING OF MAKING HOOPED SKIRTS. Listen! There is a good lesson in our story of the energy and perseverance of American character, that

brings about great results. Some eight or ten years ago, we remember a couple of young dry goods clerks in one of the great bazaars of Catharine street, and in Canal street, where they might have been plodding yet, but for the fact that nature never designed them for such unintellectual business. One of them was born an inventive genius, with a love of machinery, and it was a great mistake of his parents or guardians, or whoever it was that set him to measuring calico. He should have been educated a machinist. But bred to dry goods, we found the two young men, about half a dozen years ago, in a little store of their own, established upon what they had saved, while their fellow clerks were spending as fast as they earned. The profits and plodding of business in this store were too slow. It required no machinery. So they looked about for something to manufacture, and they found a suggestion in the growing demand for crinoline. The real French article was too expensive; ten, twenty, and even fifty dollars for a single hair skirt was too much for a woman of small means, and all sorts of substitutes were contrivedsome tolerable and some intolerable-so intolerable that there are now stowed away in lofts of this ty wagon loads of those great, unwieldy, corded, bag-woven cotton petticoats, all entirely unsalable.

At first our incipient heroes of the hoops employed a few sewing women to work corded cotton and grass cloth into wearable forms, and timidly exposed their skirts for sale in their own store, greatly to the danger of offending some of their customers. Finally, they ventured upon one sewing machine. Then they set a oem at work weaving hair-cloth, using cotton in place of linen or silk for warp, so as to make their crito ine cheaper than it could be imported. This plan succeeded, and more sewing girls, and other machines and looms, were started, and they began to sell skirts by the dozen. It was a new and expanding trade. Still there was a want. The article was too dear for the great mass of wearers, and where great expansion was desired, still required too great a weight of cloth. And so we come to

THE FIRST SKELETON.

To fill this want, the mechanical partner contrived

the sheleton skirt-believed to be the first symmetrically formed one, expanded by a series of hoops, ever made in this city, and that not six years ago. The

first one hung up in the store excited laughter, ridicule, anger, and declarations of customers that they would cease calling if "that thing" was not taken down. But it was all of no use. The hoop, once started kept rolling. All sorts of materials have been used and all sorts of contrivances to produce the expansion, until the demand has finally become fixed upon steel hosps—not one, but many—held in place by strips of tape, forming the skeleton skirt, or inserted in light muslin, scientifically cut and fashioned into the true shape to give that peculiarly symmetrical form, so much admired by ladies and their admirers. A small quantity of real cripoline is still used, and some other expensive cloths, but the majority of women are beginning to appreciate the skeleton or cheap muslin skirt to sustain the hoops, putting the costlier materials over them. The idea of a single wooden hoep, near the hem of the skirt, such as we used to see in the early days of hoopdom, or read of in the days of Addi-

son, is exploded. MATERIALS OF HOOFS.

Ratan, when made strong a nough for the large hoops, is stiff and unmanageable, and liable after short use to ar ap off under hard pressure. It has been greatly improved lately by impregnating it with a gummy substance. Whalebone makes excellent, elastic, yielding hoops, bearing all sorts of hard usage in warm weather, but enaps short in Winter. Gutta percha has been tried in various forms, but does not prove successful. An excellent hoop has been made of coiled brass wire over a cord, but it is entirely too expensive. Round wire of any metal has proved worthless. Flat bands of brass have been used to a considerable extent, but as brass cannot be tempered, except by cold rolling, it soon loses its clasticity and plagues the wearer. Steel was looked upon at first with the greatest degree of favor of any substance, but then it was expensive. Yankee irgenuity had not yet been applied to making it cheap. The first flat steel hoops were made by flattening round steel wire. They were unevenly tempered, and when made light, were liable to break. If strong, they were heavy and expensive.

STEEL HOOFS-HOW MADE.

Something must be done. Here was a new want; and who ever heard of a demand for any manufactured article that could not be filled by Yankee ingenuity and cheapened by applying Yankee machinery ! English sheet steel, that comes four and a half to eight feet long, in bands about eight inches wide, was bought and cut into ribbens by steam-driven shears. It left the edges rough, but these were worn off by passing the ribbons through dies. The strips were, however, still rough, and it was too expensive to file them off. We shall see directly how cheaply all this smoothing and polishing is done. But first, the steel must be tempered. This is a very important part of the manufacture, and requires the utmost expertness and care. The ribbons are taken from the dies, coiled into tight small coils, carefully heated to an even heat, cherry red, and then taken and plunged in oil, with the loss of but a moment of time between the fire and bath. They are now of such a high temper that falling upon the floor they would fly like glass. "They are as brittle," said a workman, "as thin ice." This temper is drawn by dippirg in lead, varying according to the thickness of the steel, from 530 deg. to 600 deg. Fahrenheit. Next comes the straightening process, which is accomplished by passing the ribbons between rollers that give a reversed pressure.

HOW THE HOOPS ARE POLISHED. See how smooth your hoops are. Lock how they are made so, and how cheaply. The ribbons are put in a long cylinder, say half full, and with them, perhaps, a bushel of broken glass—the fragments of your window which you esteemed as worthless when it was breken—and the cylinder set revolving, generally at night when there is no other work for the water wheel to do, and when opened it is found that the glass is all ground into small smooth cubes, and the rough edges of the steel rounded and made smooth. One more process, and the ribbons are ready for the skirt manufacturers. They are passed between large heavy rollers which set the temper and leave them straight, so that they will always return to their place when

These ribbons are now ready to form into hoops for the plain muslin or cloth skirts. For the skeleton pattern, they undergo another process. They are taken to another manufactory and covered with cotton thread braided over the steel, something similar to bonnet wire. This establishment is fixed in this city; the steel works are in Connecticut, where also are manufactured sundry clasps, hooks and slides, all smoothly polished by the tumbling operation. The eyelets are made in France, because they require a great deal of hand labor, which this country cannot furnish so cheaply. All else is of American manufacture.

THE GREAT SKIRT MANUFACTORY. Now let us look into the manufactory-that it is a

it one we shall soon see-of hooped two young clerks and small shopkeepers have risen to a position in which they can benefit themselves and delight all womankind, while they are giving employment to a small army of sewing girls and at least a cor peral's guard of men and boys. Indeed, they now employ THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY HANDS, nearly the whole of them bright, intelligent American girls and widows, who receive every Monday about \$1,500 for the previous week's work. The girls mostly work by the piece, commencing at 8 o'clock and working nine hours, with half an hour at dinner, which they take on the premises, and they make from \$4 to \$7 a

In these rooms we listen to the continual buzz of 180 ewing machines, which, with the hand sewing, use up every month 2,000 dozen spools of cotton thread.

These machines, and this army of sewing women

are now manufacturing an average of 3,000 skirts a day, verying from 50 cents to \$6 apiece, and comprising more than fifty patterns; the latest improved style being "the beauty"—a skeleton made of thirteen and a half yards of inch-wide tape and three yards of narrow tape and some strips of muslin, and three and a half yards of corset lacing, with 51 metal clasps, slides, tubes, eyelets and hooks, and seven steel hoops, measuring 54 feet in length, covered with braid; with three bustle hoops of whalebone, eight and a half feet long, cloth covered-the steel hoops being made to expand by slides, to suit the most expansive ideas; and yet the whole fabric weighs but 12 ounces; and although it will keep its place, it can be folded up small enough to put in a carpet-bag or band-box without inrjury. As this requires much hand labor, it will be probably sold at retail at about \$3. The low price comparatively of this and of all their work is owing to the perfection of the management and machinery for beside the 180 sewing machines, many of which have very ingenious attachments to facilitate particular branches of work, 35 other labor-saving machines are employed for every purpose to which ingenuity can apply machine power. Not to take the bread out of the operatives' months, but the very reverse, for it enables men to give them employment, because, by ingenious contrivances to facilitate labor, the cost of the manufactured articles is reduced so low that the manufacturers can give employment to a host of persons and pay liberal wages, and yet sell so low that all the world can buy. Do they! Let us see!

THE QUANTITY OF SKIRTS MADE. They make 3,000 skirts a day-75,000 a month-960,600 a year. The panic stopped the business, but now it is going again. We saw upon the books yes-terday one order for 3,450 dozen—41,400 hooped skirts

at one sale. THE MATERIALS USED. Now let us look at the materials used up every

month. In the first place, there is the plain muslin One Rhode Island cotton factory supplies, of one particular kind of cloth, 2,000 pieces per month-say 50,000 yards. Of all other kinds, about 70,000 yards are used. Half a million yards of tape are also used up every month; 225,000 yards of twenty-strand jute cord; 10,000 yards of hair-cloth; 2,000 dozen speeds of cotton; 2,800,000 eyelets, slides, clusps, tubes, hooks, &c.

MILES OF HOOPS, We stated that this single manufactory would use up n the course of a year, at the rate of the present con-

sumption, 2,200 miles of hoops a year. Let us see the consumption of feet in a month. It is 700,000 feet of steel ribbon, 200,000 feet of round ratan, 100,000 feet of round, oil-boiled whalebone-a million of feet. There are 5,280 feet in a mile, by which divide the million of feet, and we have 188 miles and 736 feets for the length of hoops used up every month in this great manufactory of hooped skirts, which will give for the year within a fraction of 2,257 | miles of hoops. Im four years it would hoop the globe. In four years, at the present rate of demand, all the civilized portion of its surface bids fair to have all its female inhabitante inclosed in steel; and then what will be the magnetic effect upon earth and its male inhabitants! But this s speculation, while we have not yet done with facts.

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PERSONS EMPLOYED. Beside the 350 hands employed in the principal sheps, there are about forty hands at the weaving and braiding factory, where the hair-cloth is made and the steel ribbons covered, for which an average of \$100 a week is paid out. At the steel works in Connecticut, it is estimated that sixty hands find employment. The steel, the eyelets, the ratan, the horse-hair, are imported. The other materials are domestic, and the uccess of the manufacture is crowding the imported article out of market.

EFFECT OF HOOPS UPON NAW MATERIAL. Notwithstanding the increased and increasing use of steel for the principal hoops might be supposed by the casual observer to put the use of ratan out of the question, it has the direct contrary effect, because that material is not only still used to a large extent in cheap skirts for all the hoops, but it forms a part of the ma-terial of nearly all of the steel-hooped skirts; and such is the increase of the manufacture that in the Malaysian Islands, whence ratan is largely imported, that article has risen in value five or six times the amount it was formerly sold for. Indeed, the manufacturers of whom we have been speaking, anticipating its increased value, have purchased and stored away a ship-load of ratan, to be worked up into other thousands of miles of hoops.

BENEFITS OF THIS NEW INDUSTRIAL BRANCH. It is an indisputable fact that heavy skirts, worn for the sole purpose of giving form, have ruined the health of thousands of women, while with these new once of six to sixteen ounces weight they can procure the same result that many a woman has carried ten pounds to attain. Such an immense weight as women have often carried in warm weather to give themselves a fashionable expansion, would break down a strong man. For this over-weighting there is now no reasonable excuse. These numerous steel springs make no display of themselves, being almost as pliable as crino-line, and compared with the old quilted skirts, they are feather-light. Nothing but cotton and flaunel sho be worn with them, and now that steel is offered so cheap, there is no excuse for any one to use the heavy, health-destroying skirts, or coarse, wooden vulgarities for hoops. And since the world of womankind will use expanding skirts, let them thank us for telling them how they are made.

THE LADY WITH THE RED PETTICOAT .- The Washington correspondent of The Pennsylvanian says of the red petticoat, recently introduced by the wife

of the red pettieoat, recently introduced by the wife of the British Minister Ousely:

"There is an English literary lady now in this city, whose dress, known in London as the 'peasant costume,' has caused quite a stir among the fashionables. The dress consists of a red and black striped petticoat descending within six inches of the feet, over which is worn a dress of the usual length, but hooped up to the hight of the skirt. A 'dread-nought' overcoat, with gilt buttons, serves to keepeut the cold and damp; while a straw hat sercens the head, and real, genuine long-lenged boots protect the feet. I do not think the dress is very neat or pretty, but it is novel, and that is something. It is considered an improvement on the Bloomer costume. In all the mud of a Washington Winter, it is a much better dress than the street-sweeping machines which have so long prevailed."

held at the Red River Settlement last mouth, the proceedings of which we find in The Toronto Giote. A. series of resolutions was passed, demanding the with-drawal of the Hucson's Bay Company's monopoly; an-nexation of the whole country to Canada, with a representative form of government; and exposing sundry resentative form of government, and exposing saminary misrepresentations made by the Company to the Home Government. A gloomy picture of the condition of the country is presented by a correspondent of The Glote. He says: "The most gloomy foreboding for the "future hangs over the settlement, while the want of many of the necessaries of life, such as soap and candles, not to speak of luxuries, such as sugars, wines and spirits, makes everybody discontented, and still more disgusted with the Company, as these things were left at York Factory, to make room for the "troops, whose room is better than their company, " and no doubt the Company will find it so soon.

TUE WEATHER IN MINNESOTA .- Our Western friends, it appears, have been enjoying as mild a Winter as we curselves. A St. Paul correspondent of the 4th inst. informs us that since the 25th of November there has been no cold weather in that city. On the last day of the year there was a fall of about six inches of snow, which disappeared again in a few days. During the whole of December the mercury did not fall below eight degrees above zero.

HARD TIMES SOUTH—NEGRO PRICES.—A regular flood of negroes invaded the town on New-Year's Day—some for hiring, but most of them just to be on hand. The rates of hiring were a little under those of last year; but they were too high in proportion to the price of cotton. Prime field-hands were hired at from \$120 to \$140; women, for from about \$60 to \$80. These figures are considerably above those we have from a portion of North Carolina. One hundred and ten negroes were hired out on Tuesday, the 20th ult., at Townsville, in the State of North Carolina. Prices much below those paid at the same place last year. Only two out of the number exceeded \$100. Efficient field-hands hired generally from \$75 to \$85, women but few, if any, reaching \$50.

There is a general complaint here of hard times,

but few, if any, reaching \$50.

There is a general complaint here of hard times, and if a scarcity of money is any criterion, the times are very hard. But those who hired negroes last week, and those who bought them on Monday last, don't feel the hard times, or they believe "there's a better time acoming, boys." Negro men without trades hired for \$150 and over—a washerwoman as high as \$250.

On Monday, a large number of negroes changed hands at auction, and both the cash and credit proces were as high as though the money market was flush to redundancy. Sixty-three negroes, belonging to the estate of Alexander Ewing, deceased, soid for \$45,565, purchasers paying cash, or giving good notes, on twelve months time, bearing interest from date. The average price was \$643.74—a pretty high average, when we consider that six or eight of the negroes were over 50 years of age, about as many discased, and probably one half of the whole were young children. A woman with three children, the oldest scarcely four years old, sold for \$2,000; a hoy sixteen years old, for about \$1,350; small boys, \$1,000 and upward. Other property seems to sell in proportion. Mules sold for \$125 to \$200. [Huntaville (Ala.) Democrat, Jan. 6.

A sale of servants took place a few days ago, at Aylett's, Ding William County, when the following prices were obtained: Woman and five children, \$2,429; woman and twochildren, \$1,300; girl, eighteem years old, \$901; man, 27 or 28 years old, \$900; man, 55 or 60 years old, \$280. Average, \$385 66. A credit of six months was allowed.

[Richmond Whig, 31st ult.]

THE LEBANON VALLEY RAILBOAD .- A special disesteh to The Philadelphia Bulletin, dated Harris-

patch to The Philadelphia Business, burg, Jan. 18, says:

"The Lebanon Valley Railrond was opened to-day throughout its entire length, from Reading, via Lebanon, to Harrisburg, a disance of 53 miles.

"The trains, filled with passengers and military, most of them coming to attend the inauguration of Gov. Packer to-morrow, left Reading this morning. They both made their time, passing over the new track in perfect safety.

"The road is now open for public travel. A train leaves Reading on the arrival of the morning train from Philadelphia, and the train from Harrisburg from Philadelphia, and the train from Harrisburg leaves at 2:40 p. m., connecting at Reading with the leaves at 2:45 p. m., connecting at Reading with the trains reaching Philadelphia and Pottsville the same evening."

REVIVAL OF RELIGION .- During the past fortugat revival of religion has been in progress in the Cherrystreet Mariners' M. E. Church.